

**Position Statement**  
**Citizens Advisory Board View of SRS Cleanup**  
**January 2013**

- Overview: The SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) supports DOE's Cleanup Program and acknowledges that the process:
  - Is massive and very complex,
  - Could last up to 40 years, and
  - Could cost on the order of \$50 B to complete<sup>1</sup>.

Even in the face of this extensive effort, the cleanup program is progressing in a timely manner to meet regulatory standards.

- Priorities for Cleanup: The CAB supports the following priorities established by DOE:
  - Essential activities to maintain a safe and compliant posture.
  - Stabilization and disposal of radioactive tank waste: Liquid Radioactive Waste Program.
  - Receipt, storage, and disposition of spent nuclear fuel: Spent Fuel Program.
  - Consolidation, stabilization, and disposition of special nuclear material: Plutonium Disposition Program.
  - Transuranic and mixed/low-level waste disposition.
  - Groundwater and soil remediation.
  - Excess facilities deactivation and decommissioning.
- CAB's position on DOE's priorities are as follows:
  - The Radioactive Liquid Waste Program should be given top priority, adequate funding, and management attention.
  - Spent fuel Program should be given a higher priority beyond the FY 13 budget year, which allows for spent fuel receipts at SRS but does not provide a path forward for site removal.
  - The H-Canyon should remain fully operational to support processing and disposition of all spent fuel at SRS.
  - As the only such processing facility in the entire U.S., the H-Canyon should remain fully operational to support all future chemical separations and stabilization of DOE nuclear materials.
  - The Plutonium Disposition Program should also continue major priority and emphasis.
    - The disposition process for this material has gone on far too long (in excess of 10 years) and more decisive and definite measures should be taken.
- The CAB understands that a certain degree of balance will be necessary to carry out all of the programs including programs of lesser priority. For example, some funding of lesser priority programs may be necessary even when higher priority programs are not fully funded.
- DOE should keep the public informed, in a timely manner consistent with commitments to the State of SC, on measures being taken to disposition plutonium, spent nuclear fuel, and the removal of waste canisters from SRS.
- CAB's position on long-range future for SRS.
  - The Site should be postured to receive new missions based on historic Site capabilities.
  - DOE should be ever mindful of the unique environmental assets that the site offers, should be especially protective of the opportunities for environmental research, and allow the public to view and enjoy nature in this setting.

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<sup>1</sup> SRS Integrated Life-Cycle Baseline